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a noise generating element non-detachably connected with said weighted section at said free end so that said weighted section is between said buoyant section and said noise generating element, said noise generating element comprising a hollow member and one or more noise generating objects moveable freely within said hollow member.

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26. (Amended) A fishing sinker comprising:

an elongated body having a line connection end and a free end, said body having a weighted section constructed at least in part of a solid weighted material having a density greater than that of water, and

a noise generating element non-detachably connected with said elongated body at said free end so that the entirety of said weighted section is between said noise generating element and said line connection end, said noise generating element comprising a hollow member and one or more noise generating objects moveable freely within said hollow member.

REMARKS

In the Office action of March 6, 2002, independent claims 1 and 26, and certain of their dependent claims, were rejected under § 102 as being anticipated by Wohead, Patent No. 3,670,447, and Witkoski, Patent No. 3,736,690. The remaining dependent claims were rejected under § 103 as being obvious over Wohead or Witkoski in view of various secondary references.

Wohead and Witkoski, as well as the other applied references, have been carefully considered, and amendments have been made to independent claims 1 and 26, and thus their respective dependent claims, which clearly distinguish from Wohead and Witkoski both individually as well as in combination with the other secondary references. Accordingly,